

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : John Michael Dooley et al.
Title : METHOD AND STRUCTURE FOR RETAINING A
TUBE
Application No. : 10/588,465
§ 371 Date : May 6, 2008
Examiner: : Gwendolyn Driggers-Fournet
Art Unit : 3679
Confirmation No. : 6701
Docket No. : 29793-1

RCE AND AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

M.S. Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

Applicant has filed concurrently herewith a Request for Continued Examination (“RCE”) in connection with the above-referenced application (“subject application”). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, if the prosecution of an application is closed, Applicant may request continued examination of the application by filing a submission and paying the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) prior to the abandonment of the subject application. Since an amendment is an acceptable submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c), this RCE is permissible. This Amendment addresses the issues raised in the final Office Action dated March 3, 2011 and includes:

- (1) **Amendments to the Claims** that are reflected in a listing that begins on page 2 of this paper;
- (2) **Amendments to the Specification** that begin on page 5 of this paper; and
- (3) **Remarks** that begin on page 6 of this paper.

The shortened statutory response period for responding to the Office Action expires on June 3, 2011. Accordingly, this Amendment is timely filed.